

January 30, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT FILLS CIRCUIT COURT VACANCY IN ROCK ISLAND

The Illinois Supreme Court announced Wednesday the appointment of Associate Judge John R. McClean Jr., of Rock Island to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Circuit Court Judge Joseph F. Beatty in the 14th Judicial Circuit.

Judge McClean has been an associate judge since October 1, 1987, and is the third most senior judge in the 14th Circuit. He has presided over many different court calls in the Rock Island courthouse; and for the last 13 years has been the sole presiding judge in Juvenile Court in Rock Island County.

While an associate judge, he has consistently had approval marks of 95 percent or higher in the Illinois State Bar Association Judicial Advisory Poll.

Justice Thomas L. Kilbride recommended the appointment of Judge McClean to the Supreme Court. The appointment is effective February 1 and terminates December 6, 2010.

Judge McClean currently serves as a member of the Illinois Judicial Conference Study Committee on Juvenile Justice, and has served on the faculty at judicial education seminars. He participated in the planning of the 2007 Summit on Child Welfare Issues in the Illinois Courts.

In 1997, Judge McClean was selected by his fellow judges to be the recipient of the Criminal Justice Award for the 14th Judicial Circuit; and received the Child Advocate of the Year Award in 2004 from the Bethany for Children and Families.

Judge McClean graduated from Regis College in Denver, Colorado and is a 1975 graduate from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

During his first two years following law school, he served with the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services Foundation, providing legal aid in civil matters to residents of Cook County Jail and their families.

MORE

McClean Appointed to Circuit Court Add One

He moved to Rock Island County in 1977, where he worked as an assistant state's attorney for two years. He was hired as an associate with the Rock Island law firm of Klockau, McCarthy, Lousberg, Ellison and Rinden in 1979; and in 1982 he and Peter Lousberg formed the firm of Lousberg and McClean. He partnered there until his appointment as associate judge in 1987.

–30–

(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323)